

FD 325

CLASSIFICATION	SECRET	25X1A	25X1
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
LOCATION	Erfurt-Bindersleben Airfield		
EVALUATION	25X1	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1A
DATE OF CONTENT	early June to 5 July 1953 25X1A		
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	7 August 1953
REFERENCES			25X1A
PAGES	1	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS			

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1. Prior to mid-June 1953, no air activity was observed at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield. About 7 p.m. on 15 June, 4 jet fighters landed. At 7:30 p.m., 10 MiG-15s were parked south of the runway. Several Soviet officers, including two generals, inspected the field that day.¹

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2. In mid-June, [redacted] the runway mats lay firmly on the ground and were partially overgrown by grass. [redacted]

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3. Prior to 14 June, no air activity was observed at the field. Work was being done at the skrapnel-proof aircraft revetments. Stones and boards were being hauled to the site. During the daytime on 15 June, 4 MiG-15s were parked at the field. [redacted]

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4. At 10:30 a.m. on 5 July, 9 twin-engine monoplanes with nose wheels and towing cargo gliders on 80-meter-long ropes landed at the field. About 11 a.m., the transport planes took off without the gliders. Nine planes towing cargo gliders landed at 11:30 a.m. and took off again with the gliders about noon. After the planes had disappeared, [redacted] 9 cargo gliders were being loaded at the field. All the planes approached from the direction of Weimar and departed in the direction of Sangerhausen. [redacted] similar flights with cargo gliders have been conducted since 25 June.²

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1. [redacted] Comment. An alert flight of 4 to 6 MiG-15s of the fighter division in Merseburg is stationed at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield. The increase of the alert flight to 10 MiG-15s is probably only temporary.

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2. [redacted] Comment. These air landing exercises in the Thuringian area were also made in the preceding years. The aircraft involved took off from Brandis airfield. As in 1951 and 1952, the cargo gliders were probably towed by Il-12s which arrived from outside East Germany. [redacted]

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